

What are Trails and Greenways

Greenways are corridors of protected open space managed for conservation and recreation purposes. Greenways often follow natural land or water features, and link nature reserves, parks, cultural features and historic sites with each other and with populated areas.

Trails are paths used for walking, bicycling, horseback riding or other forms of recreation or transportation. Some greenways include trails, while others do not. Some appeal to people, while others attract wildlife.

Trails and greenways create healthy recreation and transportation opportunities by providing people of all ages with attractive, safe, accessible and low - or no- cost places to bike, walk, hike, jog or in-line skate. In doing so, they make it easier for people to engage in physical activity. They connect neighborhoods and schools so children can cycle or walk to their friends' homes or to school.



Trails connect people with places, enabling them to walk or cycle to run errands or commute to work. A 1991 Harris Poll found that 46% of the 1,250 adults surveyed said that they would bike to work if designated trails were built.

A study based on 1990 Census data revealed that Bryan/College Station has the third highest proportion of people riding a bike to work or school in the nation.

Many studies demonstrate that parks, greenways and trails increase nearby property values. In turn, increased property values can increase local tax revenues and help offset greenway acquisition costs.

Health Benefits

The conservation of rivers, trails and greenways can help local governments and other public agencies reduce costs resulting from flooding and other natural hazards. As part of a strategy to encourage healthy living, the Texas Department of Health's Chronic Disease Community and Worksite Wellness Program actively promotes trail building.

- Trails and greenways can be used as the tools to help make exercise more convenient and neighborhoods more exercise-friendly.
- Alternative transportation reduces traffic congestion, reduces smog and makes the air cleaner.
- Greenways create a network of recreational areas.
- Greenways can buffer neighborhoods and reduce noise pollution from traffic.

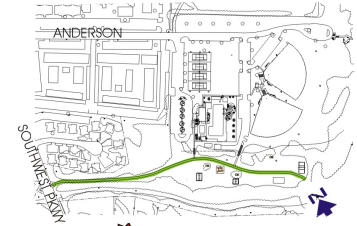
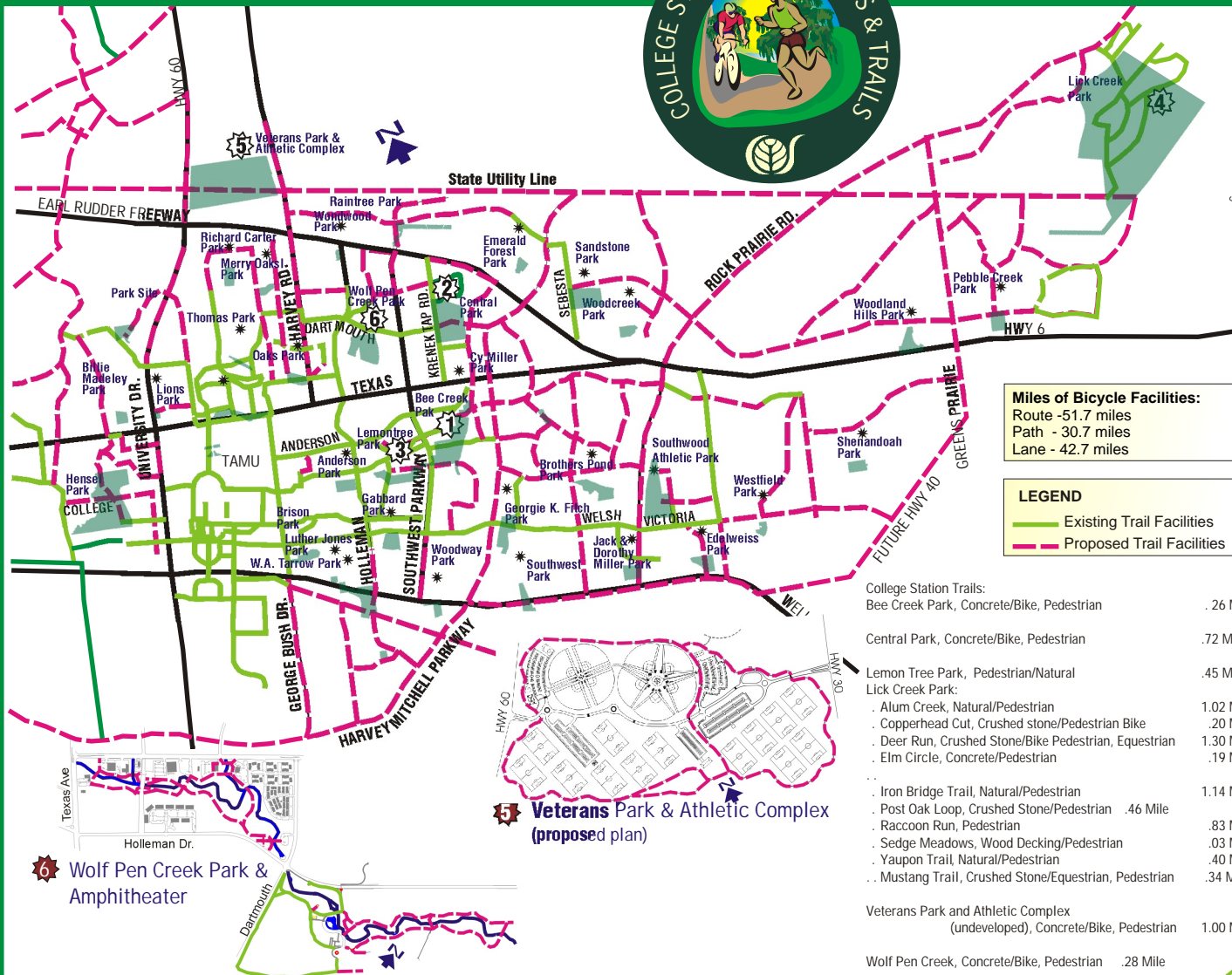


Bike Safety Tips

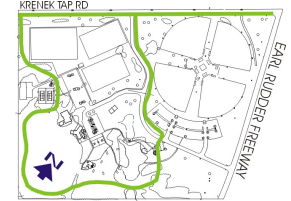
- Always wear a helmet!
- All users should keep to the right side of the path.
- Ride single file.
- Always travel at a safe speed with regard for others.
- Faster users should yield to slower users.
- Pass others on the left and give an audible warning before passing, such as calling out, "Excuse me, passing on left."
- Move off the pathway when stopping.
- Walk your bike across busy intersections, especially if making a left turn.
- Be careful when crossing streets and driveways with a bike. Watch for traffic, and make sure other drivers are aware of the path and your presence.
- Keep your bike in good mechanical condition, especially the brakes.
- Use a light and taillight at night.
- Use a carrier for packages so you can keep both hands on the handlebars.
- Remember to always stay alert.
- Obey all traffic signals and signs when traveling to and from the trails. Bicycles are treated like a car by law. Never carry a passenger unless it is a small child wearing an approved helmet and secured in a correctly mounted child carrier.
- Don't ride in severe weather.



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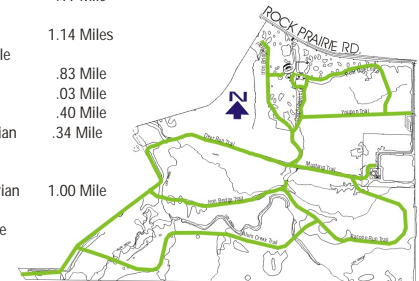
1 Bee Creek Park



2 Central Park



3 Lemontree Park



4 Lick Creek Park